**How to Write a DBQ: An Ideal Essay**

**Intro Paragraph:**

* Introduction only if time
* **Thesis Statement**: Take a position on the question asked. Address ALL parts of question. Outline your position with TWO-THREE reasons (depending on how many body paragraphs you have)
  + **Ex**. The Articles of Confederation were ineffective in solving the problems confronted by a new nation because of **reason A**, **reason B** and **reason C**.
* When the reader is done reading your thesis statement, they should know exactly where your paper is going. Reason A=body paragraph 1, reason b=body paragraph 2, reason c=body paragraph 3.
* Remember: don’t be too specific

**Body Paragraph 1** (Reason A)

* Topic Sentence

1. Use of document (***1***)
   * Document Analysis (How does this document answer question? How does it support your thesis?)
   * Cite Document
2. Outside Information
   * Analyze information (How does this info answer question? How does it support your thesis? Is it relevant?)
3. Use of document (***2***)
   * Document Analysis (How does this document answer question? How does it support your thesis?)
   * Cite Document
4. Outside Information
   * Analyze information (How does this info answer question? How does it support your thesis? Is it relevant?)

**Body Paragraph 2 (**Reason B)

* Topic Sentence

1. Use of document (***3***)
   1. Document Analysis (How does this document answer question? How does it support your thesis?)
   2. Cite Document
2. Outside Information
   * Analyze information (How does this info answer question? How does it support your thesis? Is it relevant?)
3. Use of document (***4***)
   1. Document Analysis (How does this document answer question? How does it support your thesis?)
   2. Cite Document
4. Outside Information
   1. Analyze information (How does this info answer question? How does it support your thesis? Is it relevant?)

**Body Paragraph 3** (Reason C)

* Topic Sentence

1. Use of document (***5***)
   * Document Analysis (How does this document answer question? How does it support your thesis?)
   * Cite Document
2. Outside Information
   * Analyze information (How does this info answer question? How does it support your thesis? Is it relevant?)
3. Use of document (***6***)
   1. Document Analysis (How does this document answer question? How does it support your thesis?)
   2. Cite Document
4. Outside Information
   1. Analyze information (How does this info answer question? How does it support your thesis? Is it relevant?)

**Conclusion**- Only if time permits